

display;

C2
cont
a second pad between the main frame and the printed circuit board for fixing the distance between the main frame and the printed circuit board; and

a third pad between the printed circuit board and the bottom case for fixing the distance between the bottom case and the printed circuit board.

C3
11 (AMENDED). The liquid crystal display of claim 6, wherein the tape carrier package is arranged between the printed circuit board and the third silicon pad.

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Final Office Action of December 13, 2002, has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the claim 7 as containing informalities; objected to claim 11 as failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim; objected to the drawings under 37 CFR § 1.83(a) as failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims; rejected claims 1-5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuda (U.S. Pat. No. 5,929,950); and rejected claims 6 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda in view of Kawano et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,195,141). These objections and rejections are traversed and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Preliminarily, Applicant notes that while the Examiner stated claim 7 was objected to because "on page 3, line 4, 'farm' should be --frame--", Applicant respectfully submits claim 8

contains the aforementioned informality, not claim 7. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the aforementioned objection in view of the claim amendment.

Claim 11 was objected to as failing to further limited the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant submits that the objection of this claim is moot in view of the claim amendment.

In objecting to the drawings as not showing every feature of the claimed invention, the Examiner stated, "the pads in Claims 1 and 7 must be shown in Fig. 4 or the feature(s) cancelled from the claim(s)" (Office Action at 2.) Applicant respectfully traverses this objection and reconsideration is hereby requested.

Applicant respectfully submits that examples of the above-listed element are clearly shown in the drawings and described in the specification. For the purposes of example only, pads are shown in Fig. 5, elements 54, 56A, and 56B. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that examples of all claim elements are clearly indicated in the drawings and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw all objections to the drawings. In order to clarify Fig. 4 is a plan view illustrating a structure of a LCD module accordingly to an embodiment of the present invention and Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view of Figure 4 along line B to B'. Therefore, the pads as described above are in Fig. 4 as exemplified by Fig. 5. Further, Applicant respectfully submits, 37 CFR § 1.83(a) does not require that every Figure of the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicant respectfully submits the drawing do show every feature specified in the claims.

The rejection of claims 1- 5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuda is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited art in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements, including, for example, "a panel guide provided between the backlight assembly and the liquid

crystal panel... and a pad provided between the panel guide and the back light assembly forming a distance between the panel guide and the back light assembly and thermally shutting off the liquid crystal panel from a light in the back light assembly.” None of the cited reference including Matsuda singularly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 and dependant claims 2-6, which depend from independent claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 7 is allowable over the cited art in that claim 7 recites a combination of elements, including, for example, “a panel guide provided between the backlight assembly and the liquid crystal panel... wherein the panel guide and the main frame enclose a portion of the backlight assembly; a first pad provided between the panel guide and the light guide for thermally shutting off the liquid crystal panel from the lamp.” None of the cited reference including Matsuda singularly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 7 and dependant claims 8-11, which depend from independent claim 7, are allowable over the cited references.

The Examiner cites Matsuda as disclosing “a liquid crystal panel 4; a backlight assembly 7... a panel guide 3 provided between the backlight assembly [7] and the liquid crystal panel to support the liquid crystal panel; and a first pad 3a provided between the panel guide [3] and the backlight assembly...” (Office Action at 6.)

Applicant respectfully submits, however, Matsuda teaches at column 2, lines 54-58 “The backlight assembly 7 includes a light guide plate 9... a lens sheet of similar optical sheet 10, a chassis in the form of a molding 3...” Accordingly, and while referring to Figure 5, Applicant respectfully submits that since the object designated by reference numeral 3 is a part of the backlight assembly 7, the object designated by reference numeral 3 cannot be formed between

the liquid crystal panel 4 and something it is already a part of (backlight assembly 7). Further, assuming *arguendo* that the object designated by reference numeral 3 was not a part of backlight assembly 7, Matsuda still would not show wherein the first pad 3a is provided between the object designated by reference numeral 3 and the backlight assembly 7, as asserted by the Examiner. For example, Applicant respectfully submits Matsuda teaches at column 4, lines 11-13 "...the elastic portions 3a of the chassis 3 intervene between the light guide plate 9 and the display device 4." Accordingly, and while referring to Figure 5, Applicant respectfully submits the first pad 3a is not formed between the object designated by reference numeral 3 and the backlight assembly and any subcomponent of backlight assembly 7. Rather, and as indicated by Matsuda above, the first pad 3a is formed between the light guide plate 9 and the display device 4 (see also Figure 6, for example).

The Examiner also cites Matsuda as disclosing "a main frame 3 to which the backlight assembly [7] is secured." (Office Action at 6.)

As similarly presented above, however, Applicant respectfully submits that since the object designated by reference numeral 3 is a part of the backlight assembly 7, the object designated by reference numeral 3 cannot secure to itself something it is already a part of (backlight assembly 7). Further, claim 7 requires at least that the panel guide and the main frame enclose a portion of the backlight assembly. As presented by the Examiner, the object designated by reference numeral 3 now represents both a "main frame" and a "panel guide." For similar reasons as presented above, Applicant respectfully submits, however, this interpretation of Matsuda is improper in view of the aforementioned claimed elements.

The rejection of claims 6 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable and Matsuda in view of Kawano et al. is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 and 8-11 include all of the limitations of claims 1 and 7, respectively as

discussed above, and Matsuda fails to teach or suggest at least these features of independent claims 1 and 7, as recited above. Similarly, Kawano et al. fails to cure the deficiencies of Matsuda. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness regarding claims 6 and 8-11 in view of claims 1 and 7, as above.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner deems that a telephone call would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7600. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

1 (TWICE AMENDED). A liquid crystal display device, comprising:

a liquid crystal panel;

a backlight assembly for radiating a light onto the liquid crystal panel;

optical sheets on the backlight assembly;

a panel guide provided between the backlight assembly and the liquid crystal panel to support the liquid crystal panel; and

a pad provided between the panel guide and the backlight assembly forming a distance between the panel guide and the backlight assembly and thermally [insulating] shutting off the liquid crystal panel and the optical sheets from a light in the backlight assembly.

7. (AMENDED) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:

a main frame;

a liquid crystal panel;

a backlight assembly arranged with the main frame for radiating light onto the liquid crystal panel, comprising:

a lamp;

a lamp housing; and

a light guide; [and

optical sheets;]

optical sheets:

a panel guide provided between the backlight assembly and the liquid crystal panel for supporting the liquid crystal panel[; and] wherein the panel guide and the main frame enclose a

portion of the backlight assembly; and

a first pad provided between the panel guide and the light guide for thermally [insulating] shutting off the liquid crystal panel and the optical sheets from a light in the lamp.

8 (AMENDED). The liquid crystal display of claim 7, further comprising:

a printed circuit board under the main frame;

a top case arranged on the liquid crystal panel and connected to a bottom case;

a tape carrier package for connecting the printed circuit board to the liquid crystal display;

a second pad between the main [farm] frame and the printed circuit board for fixing the distance between the main frame and the printed circuit board; and

a third pad between the printed circuit board and the bottom case for fixing the distance between the bottom case and the printed circuit board.

11 (AMENDED). The liquid crystal display of claim [9] 6, wherein the tape carrier package is arranged between the printed circuit board and the third silicon pad.